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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
E. DANA DURAND, DIRECTOR

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SPECIAL REPORTS

RELIGIOUS BODIES: 1906

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PART I

SUMMARY AND GENERAL TABLES



WASHINGTON
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1910

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THIS REPORT IS PUBLISHED IN TWO PARTS, AS FOLLOWS:

PART I—SUMMARY AND GENERAL TABLES.

PART II—SEPARATE DENOMINATIONS:
HISTORY, DESCRIPTION, AND STATISTICS.

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,
Washington, D. C., February 23, 1910.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Part I of a special report on religious bodies, in which are presented a summary of the results and general tables. Part II will present the statistics and general description of the separate denominations.

The statistics presented in this report have been compiled from material collected by the Bureau of the Census under the authority of section 7 of the permanent census act. Limited information of this character was first published in the census report for 1850, and similar information was included in the reports for 1860, 1870, and 1890, so that the present report, representing conditions, as near as may be, at the close of the year 1906, constitutes the fifth collection and publication of these statistics through the agency of the Census.

The essential results of the present inquiry have already been presented in a preliminary bulletin (Census Bulletin 103) in such form and detail as to meet, in most respects, the wants of the general public.

The complete report embraces not only all the material contained in the preliminary bulletin, but covers much additional information, including considerable data not comprehended by any of the former census reports on religious bodies, notably, the statistics of denominational and undenominational Sunday schools; a compilation of the average annual salaries paid to ministers; a statement of the languages used in the conduct of church services; and a sketch of the missionary, educational, and philanthropic work of the various denominations, both at home and abroad.

The statistics for this report were collected partly by correspondence and partly by the employment of special agents. The work was conducted under the supervision of Mr. William C. Hunt, chief statistician for population in this bureau.

Very respectfully,



Director of the Census.

Hon. CHARLES NAGEL,
Secretary of Commerce and Labor.